

Remarks

Election species requirement

The Examiner has required election from:

Species I: wherein after step (h), the first electrode and the second electrode has a dimensional change less than 3%;

Species II: wherein after step (h), the first electrode and the second electrode has a dimensional change of from -0.5 to -2%;

Species III: wherein after step (h), the first electrode and the second electrode has a dimensional change of from 0 to -2%; and

Species IV: wherein after step (h), the first electrode and the second electrode has a dimensional change of from 0 to -0.7%.

Claim Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended to recite the limitation of claim 4.

Claim 4 has been cancelled. Applicants have amended Claim 27 to recite that the dimensional change is less than -3%. Support for this amendment is found in page 18, lines 25-29 where it is stated that :

"With the absence of the backing sheet or the first dimensionally stable temporary substrate during the first coating, and/or the absence of the second dimensionally stable temporary substrate we have observed a reduction in x- and y- dimension during the drying of an electrode area. This reduction was measured at 3%".

Applicants election

The Examiner acknowledges that claim 1 is generic.

Applicants elect with traverse Species I: wherein after step (h), the first electrode and the second electrode has a dimensional change *less than -3%*.

Claims 1, 5-12, 16-22 and 27 read on the elected species.

Applicants traverse the election of species requirement for the reasons below. As set forth in MPEP § 808.01(a) election of species should not be required when there is a relationship between the species. Applicants contend that Species 1-IV are related as dimensional change of the electrode of less than -3% (Species I) encompasses the species (III-IV). Further as set forth in MPEP § 806.04(a) election of species should not be required when the number of species is not unreasonably large. Applicants submit that search of 4 species is not an excessive amount to pose a serious burden on the Examiner in searching all of these species together.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the requirement for election of species be withdrawn upon reconsideration, and that all of pending claims 1, 5-12, 16-22 and 27-30 be examined together.

Respectfully submitted,

/JANE O. HAMBY/
JANE O. HAMBY
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS
Registration No.: 32,872
Telephone: (302) 892-7907
Facsimile: (302) 892-0699

Dated: September 25, 2008